

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for adapting media content, comprising:

a first communications device disposed in a first location, the first communications device being operatively coupled to a network; and

a second communications device disposed in a second location, the second communications device being operatively coupled to the network, the second communications device receiving a device profile relating to the first communications device, adapting media content based upon the device profile of the first communications device, and sending the adapted media content to the first communications device.

2. The system according to claim 1,

wherein the first communications device is coupled to the network via a first headend, and

wherein the second communications device is coupled to the network via a second headend.

3. The system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the first communications device and the second communications device comprises a software platform that can provide at least one of a user-interface functionality, a distributed storage functionality and a networking functionality.

4. The system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the first communications device and the second communications device comprises a software platform that can provide at least one of device registration, channel setup, program setup, management and security.

5. The system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the first communications device and the second communications device is adapted to provide at least one of a distributed networking capability, an archival functionality, a temporary storage capability, a storage manager and a digital rights manager.

6. The system according to claim 1, wherein the device profile comprises information related to digital media parameters.

7. The system according to claim 6, wherein the information related to the digital media parameters comprises information related to at least one of resolution content, display size, color content and grey-scale content.

8. The system according to claim 1, wherein the device profile comprises information related to media content capabilities of the first communications device.

9. The system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the first communications device and the second communications device comprises a television screen that facilitates viewing and interacting with at least one of a user interface, media, data and services available on the network.

10. The system according to claim 1, wherein the first communications device requests the media content from the second communications device via the network.

11. The system according to claim 1, wherein the device profile can be updated at the first communications device.

12. The system according to claim 1, wherein the device profile comprises one or more digital parameters set to a quality level lower than a maximum quality level supported by the first communications network.

13. The system according to claim 1,
wherein the second communications device sends the adapted media content with a file to the first communications device,
wherein the file is associated with the media content, and
wherein the file comprises information relating to a location of a higher quality version of the media content stored in the network.

14. The system according to claim 13, wherein the file comprises a meta file associated with the media content.

15. The system according to claim 13, wherein the first communications device can access the higher quality version of the media content by using the file.

16. The system according to claim 1, wherein the second communications device adapts one or more digital parameters of the media content based upon the device profile of the first communications device.

17. A system for adapting media content, comprising:
a communications device operatively coupled to a network, the communications device storing a revisable device profile of the communications device, sending the revisable device profile to the network, and receiving media content that has been adapted based upon the sent device profile.

18. The system according to claim 17, further comprising:
a media server operatively coupled to the network,
wherein the media server adapts the media content based on the revisable device profile.

19. The system according to claim 18, wherein the media server receives the media content from the network.

20. The system according to claim 18, wherein the media content is stored in the media server.

21. A system for adapting media content, comprising:

a communications device operatively coupled to a network, the communications device receiving a revisable device profile from the network, adapting media content based upon the received device profile, and sending the adapted media content to the network.

22. A method for adapting media content, comprising:

receiving, by a first communications device, a device profile relating to a second communications device, the first communications device and the second communications device being operatively coupled to a network;

adapting, by the first communications device, media content based upon the device profile; and

sending the adapted media content to the first communications device.

23. The method according to claim 22, wherein adapting the media content comprises adapting one or more digital parameters characterizing the media content.

24. The method according to claim 22, wherein sending the adapted media content to the first communications device comprises sending the adapted media content and a file associated with the media content to the first communications device.

25. The method according to claim 24, wherein the file comprises information related to a location of a higher quality version of the media content.

26. The method according to claim 24, further comprising:
accessing, by the second communications device, a higher quality version of the media content by processing the file.

27. A method for adapting media content, comprising:
storing, in a communications device, a revisable device profile of the communications device, the communications device being operatively coupled to a network;
sending the revisable device profile to the network; and
receiving media content from the network that has been adapted based upon the sent device profile.

28. The method according to claim 27, further comprising:
adapting, by a media server, the media content based on the revisable device profile, the media server being operatively coupled to the network.

29. The system according to claim 28, further comprising:
receiving, by the media server, the media content from the network.